

AUGUST 2024

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THE OFFICIAL BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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Cover Photo by Hans Berkhout



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News, Events, & More



Crime Statistics



Real Estate Statistics



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Declutter and Discover! Join Us for the Citywide Treasure Hunt: A Fun Event for All Ages!

by *The City of Calgary, Waste and Recycling Services*

We are excited to announce the upcoming Curbside Treasure Hunt, taking place across Calgary on September 7 and 8. This is a fantastic community event where residents can set out items they no longer need, giving others a chance to find a hidden gem.

Event Details:

- Dates: September 7 and 8
- Look through your home and gather any reusable items that you no longer need.
- Mark them with a "Free" label and place them at the curb on the designated event days.
- Treasure hunters rejoice! Anyone can come and pick up these items for their own use – it's like a free garage sale right at your doorstep!
- If it's still on the curb, let's keep the community tidy and donate it!

The Treasure Hunt encourages Calgarians to explore their neighbourhoods, find unique items, and meet new people. It's a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our community ties and supports our goal of reducing environmental impacts by reducing waste. Participants can place items they no longer need at the curb for others to pick up, fostering a spirit of sharing and community engagement.

Dear Brentwoodians,

We have a lot of photos for your summertime enjoyment, so I will keep things brief. I want to emphasise Melanie's point in her Development and Transportation report about the importance of staying aware of events and developments in the area, and making your voice heard. Another way to stay involved and connected in the community is to patronize local businesses when possible – a diverse selection of shops, restaurants, and services are a key part of a vibrant, livable neighbourhood! I hope everyone has a great summer.

Photo Contest

The *Bugle* is looking for Brentwood's best amateur photographers to provide cover images each month. If you have a great snap of our neighbourhood saved on your phone or posted on your social media feed, send it in for a chance to be featured on the cover of an upcoming issue! Photos must be 300 DPI or higher (i.e. from a newer model phone or good digital camera) and 2400 x 1600 pixels minimum size. If submitting pictures of minors, please make sure that you have direct, express permission to submit the picture from a parent or guardian. Send your photos, or any questions, to bcabugle@telus.net.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker

Editor, Brentwood Bugle



**international
Left-Handers Day**

August 13 is a special day for those who have the unique distinction of being left-handed. Approximately 10% of the global population are left-handed. But don't fret, left-handers! Some influential people who share your uniqueness include Prince William, Barack Obama, Justin Bieber, Oprah Winfrey, and Jennifer Lawrence, just to name a few.

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Brentwood Cares - Little Food Library and More!

With your donations and support, we continue to stock the Brentwood Cares Little Food Library twice daily, for use by people of all ages and circumstances, from elders to students.

Unopened, sealed items can be dropped off in the library itself or in the box beside the door at 3624 Boulton Road at any time. Hats off to Brentwood for your continued support!

Liza and the Brentwood Cares Team

Buy Nothing Brentwood

Give freely; share creatively! Post anything you'd like to give away, lend, or share; ask for anything you'd like to receive or borrow.

Check out the Buy Nothing Brentwood/Charleswood/Collingwood Facebook page, or buynothingproject.org.

Calgary Police Service on Nextdoor!

Calgary Police Service now has a dedicated space to engage with community residents.

You can expect to see posts on the following topics:

- Awareness and updates: events, initiatives, and updates in our community
- Crime trends and prevention: education, resources, and tools
- Community engagement: a place to share concerns, ideas, and feedback
- Emergency alerts: immediate notifications that affect our area

You can find the Calgary Police Service's space on Nextdoor here: <https://ca.nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ab/calgary/calgary-police-service/>.

Your Representatives in Brentwood

City Councillor: Sean Chu (Ward 4): ward04@calgary.ca; 403-268-3727.

MLA: Luanne Metz (Calgary-Varsity): Calgary.varsity@assembly.ab.ca; 403-216-5436.

MP: Len Webber (Calgary Confederation): len.webber@parl.gc.ca; 403-220-0888.



BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: September 5th, 2024
TIME: 7:00 pm
LOCATION: Brentwood Sportsplex Hall
1520B Northmount Dr NW

*Registration starts at 6:30 pm
Meet and greet social following AGM.*

JOIN US ON THE ICE TODAY!

BRENTWOOD LEARN TO SKATE

GROUP LESSONS

THURSDAYS: 6:00-7:00 PM
SATURDAYS: 10:45-11:45 AM

Registration for the new skating season will start July 2nd, 2024.
The skating season runs from September 12th, 2024 to March 15th, 2025!

Ages 3+

BrentwoodSkatingClub@gmail.com
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Photo Corner



Photo by Charlie Bodner

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What Is “Good” Development in Established Communities?

by Melanie Swailes on behalf of the Development and Transportation Committee

It’s happened again: while I was out for a neighbourhood walk, someone told me about a “monster” house (a house that is much larger and taller than other nearby existing homes) that has been approved on their street, and asked how this was allowed to happen. I replied that the Brentwood Community Association (BCA) did submit a response with concerns about the impact of massing and shadowing (plus other factors) on adjacent homes, but that we received no feedback from any neighbours on the street. In addition to the City’s notification sandwich boards, the Development and Transportation Committee (DTC) delivers a Neighbour Notification (NN) to the most affected nearby homes for every Discretionary Development Permit received by the BCA. The purpose of the NN is to ensure that neighbours are aware of a proposed development near them and know how to submit their feedback. If no feedback is received, positive or negative, the DTC assumes that neighbours accept the development proposal as submitted. Once construction starts on the project, it’s too late to then go back and suggest that the building is too big or will have windows overlooking another backyard.

The Community Association is a key stakeholder in the City of Calgary’s Planning public engagement process. The BCA is informed by the City of Calgary about Development Permits and Land Use Amendments within our community: we receive a copy of the proposed development, including plans, drawings, or renderings.

We review each application based on Planning rationale and we include feedback from our residents. Does your feedback matter? Yes, to the BCA it does because it helps us to understand how or why you support or oppose a proposed project. To the Planning Department, Council, and City Administration, ideally, yes it does, although the recent blanket rezoning hearings may make you believe otherwise. All I can suggest is that you should continue to voice your opinions where possible because otherwise silence is taken as consent.

Regarding the blanket rezoning, established communities like ours will likely see more changes than

other newer areas. As an example, blanket rezoning will have little impact on most Ward 3 communities including Country Hills, Harvest Hills, MacEwan, and Sandstone. Why? As per the Councillor for the area, “... the probability of redevelopment in Ward 3 is low. These include the fact that our housing stock is new, we have many curvilinear roads without lane access and far fewer perfectly rectangular parcels like you see in the inner-city grid. In addition to this, (Council supported) an amendment that increases the parking requirements for all Ward 3 communities. When you increase parking requirements, it effectively downzones the parcel. If you need more parking, you can’t fit as much housing.”

At the end of the blanket rezoning debates, there was a lot of discussion about how changes can happen in a more sensitive and contextual way in established communities. The following is a verbatim summary of the amendments which City Planning staff have been directed to complete. Most of these items are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2024, although the blanket rezoning implementation date is scheduled for August 6, 2024.

Enhance Public Engagement

- Review and enhance The City of Calgary Applicant Outreach Toolkit in collaboration with interested community associations, residents, and industry to improve transparency in community outreach and engagement for development permit applications in R-CG districts, using this process to either create an incentive or requirement for community engagement prior to a formal application submission, with an update to Council by end of 2024 Q3;
- Create a Rowhouse How-to Guide with input from interested community associations, residents, and industry that identifies contextually appropriate design strategies (including but not limited to building height, placement and treatment of windows, air conditioners, waste and recycling bins, and landscaping), with an update to Council by end of 2024 Q4;
- Determine the necessary resources and any associated funding required to fully implement and sustain a Community Planning Planner Liaison program as previously discussed with some inner-city communities and report back to Council no later than the end of 2024 Q3 for any resource and budget requests; and

- Investigate and report back on options to improve the public notification systems and information provided to users through the City's planning and development information systems (i.e., DMAP, Calgary.ca, etc.), and report back by 2025 Q4.

Rules and Contextual Fit

- Utilize or leverage an existing community and industry working group to mutually seek efficiencies in the development permit process to expedite development permit timelines, while making townhouse and rowhouse development permits more consistent and standardized in RCG areas to create transparency and predictability for applicants and the public;
- Report back annually to Community Development Committee with recommendations to address issues in the Land Use Bylaw, Local Area Planning program, and permit approvals that have arisen from Rezoning for Housing; and
- Consider changes to the Land Use Bylaw, including provisions related to the current R-G, R-CG, and H-GO districts, to address issues related to privacy for adjacent neighbours identified through this report as part of its reporting to Council on the City Building Program.

General Concerns

- Review all City-owned parks and evaluate the appropriate district and include a recommendation to rezone with the implementation of the new Zoning Bylaw (i.e. remove residential zoning from parkland);
- Amend the bylaw to clarify which areas must provide a minimum of 1.0 parking stalls per unit or suite, and those that may provide 0.5 stalls per unit or suite (chart will be available in the confirmed minutes and represented in the bylaw itself); and
- Track Development Permit applications on RCG parcels city-wide to identify areas where increased densification requires infrastructure investment (including but not limited to water, roads, and parks), and bring forward the most appropriate funding tool to ensure growth is supported with proper infrastructure.

If you ever have a chance to provide feedback on a Planning proposal, please do. If you would like to join our Community Association, you are always welcome to do so. A good first step would be to attend the Annual General Meeting at the BCA (Sportsplex building) on September 5 at 7:00 pm, with a meet and greet social

following the meeting. This is the perfect chance to hear a summary from each of the BCA's committees, as well as to talk with community representatives. For more information, contact the office at office@brentwoodcommunity.com or at 403-284-3477. Thank you.



Brentwood
Community Association
Membership Application

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First Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

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Family \$35 55 Plus (Couple) \$25
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Alberta T2L 1V3
office@brentwoodcommunity.com

403-284-3477



It Was a Busy Weekend in Brentwood

by Lee Hunt

Late June saw two major community events in Brentwood.

On Saturday, June 22, the Brentwood Sportsplex parking lot was abustle for Community Cleanup Day. There was a steady flow of vehicles as people arrived to drop off no-longer-wanted electronics, tires, and metal to be recycled, and bulky articles for waste disposal.

The Calgary Drop-In Centre also had a truck present to receive still-useable items for their clients.

In total, our community recycled 1.6 metric tons of electronics, 3.1 metric tons of scrap metal, and 11,475 kilograms in waste. Wow!

Special thanks to the cleanup organizers Bonita McCurry, Lisa Boychuk, Isabel Chan, Charlene Brust, and Cam Howey along with volunteers from Brentwood, Sir Winston Churchill High, and SAIT. Cam wanted to especially thank Dee who managed to arrange for a scrap metal dealer when the first one did not show up.

The very next day – Sunday, June 23 – brought Super Soccer Sunday to the fields behind the Brentwood Community Garden and the Skate Shack. The soccer players, ages 4 to 18, were from Brentwood and nearby NW communities. Every player earned a participation medal – I saw lots of smiles! But the players did not come alone – there were an estimated 800 people present – many of whom enjoyed picnic lunches under the trees.

Besides soccer, there were also two bouncy castles, bubble tubs, cornhole, food vendors, plus tables sponsored by the various participating communities.

Thanks to the main organizers involved in Super Soccer Saturday - Bonita McCurry and Bianca Ridge.

Overall, it was an active weekend in Brentwood. Thanks to all who organized, helped, and participated.



Cleanup photo by Bonita McCurry



Cleanup photo by Isabel Chan



Soccerfest photo by Bonita McCurry



Soccerfest photo by Bonita McCurry



Soccerfest photo by Patricia Tsang

Calgary



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Congratulations on your successful cleanup on Saturday, June 22,
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September 9 to December 23, 2024

January 6 to March 24, 2025

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September 11 to December 18, 2024

January 8 to March 26, 2025

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Off the Bookshelf

by Rosemary Brown

While the books read for June touched on some of the same themes, they could not have been more different in approach and sensibility. However, I thoroughly enjoyed both books.

In the Indigenous Book Club, we read *Two-Spirit Stories, Sex and the Ceremony Behind it All*. This slim volume of sometimes achingly beautiful poetry was written by Alycia Two Bears, who describes herself as mixed blood, and is a member of the Mistawasis Nehiya First Nation in Saskatchewan.

Two Bears lives in Calgary where she earned B.A.s in General Studies and Education at the University of Calgary and where she now practices as a full spectrum birth worker. The mother of five children, she advocates for midwifery and home births. She is also a board member of the Moss Bag Project which assembles and distributes menstrual supplies to women who are unhoused.

Two Bear's commitment to and love for women shines through her poetry. Organized into rounds, these short poems, some only one sentence long, are elegant and evocative. The gentleness and grace with which she treats a range of themes is reminiscent of her late mentor Sharron Proulx Turner, who is lovingly remembered in a few of the poems.

Some of my favourite lines were: "As a child I believed I could control the wind"; "Mountains are women lying naked on their back, sides lush green bushes, wet blue lakes, white nipple peaks, dark caves, sacred exploration"; and "Spirits looking for their lost child, bright lights in the night sky."

Venco, the Settlers Book club selection, is not gentle nor graceful but is an equally compelling, women-centred read. Penned by award-winning and best-selling author Cherie Dimaline, from the Historic Georgian Bay Metis Community in Ontario, *Venco* traverses the centuries from the vantage point of the present and takes us into multiple geographic locations in North America.

I loosely categorize this work as an urban fantasy. It revolves around six women from diverse stages of life, racial, cultural, and sexual identities, who all have

one thing in common. They are witches and they are searching for a seventh witch to complete their coven. They are aided by the Oracle (embodied in the Crone, the Mother, and the Maiden) as they seek to destroy the last of the Good Walkers, Jay Christos.

Since the time of the Inquisition, the Good Walkers have been claimed to use magical powers to seek out and kill "witches": the healers, wise women, and mid-wives of old. For the Oracle and the witches, Jay personifies all that is wrong with the contemporary world, from the ravages of capitalism to the abuse of women and the natural world.

Jay Christos is a beautiful, seductive, narcissistic, abusive immortal who is determined to prevent the formation of the North American coven based in Salem. To do so he stalks Lucky, the sixth witch, as she searches for the seventh needed to complete the coven, a necessary step before the Oracle can act.

While the book starts slowly as the author introduces us to her characters, it quickly picks up the pace and the reader will not want to put it down until they reach the dramatic and somewhat shocking conclusion.

THE HOME FRIEND



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CHARLESWOOD—CONRAD DRIVE.....LISTED & SOLD for 100% of asking price
VARSITY—VARSITY DRIVE.....SOLD for 101% of asking price
BRENTWOOD—BROWN CRESCENT.....SOLD for 103% of asking price
HAMPTONS—HAMPTONS LINK.....SOLD for 101% of asking price

ON THE MARKET



4103 CHARLESWOOD DRIVE NW (CHARLESWOOD)

Outstanding bungalow in Charleswood with 2,135 sq.ft. of total living space. Three + one bedrooms. Upgrades include: Triple pane windows, siding, steel tile roof, a new sewer line and more. The sizable fenced backyard features space to build your own garage, and a custom-built 8' x 12' hobby workshop. Close to all amenities.

Asking \$619,900 mls# A2132688



77 HAMPTONS LINK NW (HAMPTONS)

Two bedroom, end unit townhome in La Vita Pointe in Hamptons. Backs onto green space and overlooks golf course. Living room with a gas fireplace. Double attached garage (tandem).

Asking \$539,900 mls# A2145797



CHINATOWN—3 AVENUE

An affordable studio condo apartment in Chinatown. Offers downtown view from the south facing, bright living area and the balcony. Short walk to public transit, restaurants, and walking trail along the Bow River.

Asking \$128,800 mls# A2129193



BRENTWOOD—BULYEA ROAD

Outstanding open-beam, three bedroom bungalow in Brentwood with over 1,225 sq.ft. of total living space. Oak hardwood flooring reminiscent of mid-century construction. The lower level has a legal, two bedroom secondary suite. Previously approved development approval drawings for a laneway suite located above a triple garage are available for future consideration.

Asking \$794,900 mls# A2142231

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